The Gettysburg Address

November 19, 1863

A *score* in this sense means ***a set of twenty***.

"Four **score** and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, **conceived** in liberty and dedicated to the **proposition** that all men are created equal.

To *conceive* means to ***form or device a plan in your mind.***

A *proposition* is an ***idea*** or **a statement**.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long **endure**. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to **dedicate** a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

To *dedicate* means to ***devote something to a specific purpose***.

To *endure* means to ***survive***.

To *consecrate* means to ***make or declare something sacred.***

But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot **consecrate**, we cannot **hallow** this ground. The brave men, living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or **detract**. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so **nobly** advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us--that from these honored dead we take increased **devotion** to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion--that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died **in vain**, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not **perish** from the earth."

To *hallow* something means to ***make it holy or sacred as an honor.***

To *detract* means to ***diminish or reduce the value of something.***

If something is considered *noble*, *then it is of* ***high moral principles and ideals.***

Devotion describes one's ***love, loyalty, or enthusiasm for a person or cause***.

If something is *in vain* it means ***it produced no result, was useless or without meaning.***

To perish means to ***suffer death or complete destruction.***